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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR
DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing **OR** Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number		HO-P02901US1
First Named Inventor		Robert R. Wood
<i>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</i>		
Application Number		10/719,795-Conf. #2945
Filing Date		November 21, 2003
Art Unit		1712
Examiner Name		Not Yet Assigned

I hereby declare that:

Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name.

I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

DRILLING FLUIDS

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

is attached hereto

OR

was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) 11/21/2003 as United States Application Number or PCT International

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365 (a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s) and Country Filed Before that of the Application on Which Priority is Claimed.					
Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

Declaration for Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER509329129US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: 4/2/04

Signature: Janet West

(Ronnie Webb)

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DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

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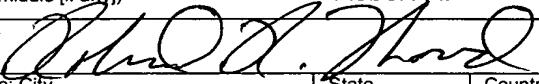
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:	<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor
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Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Robert R.	Family Name or Surname	Wood
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Inventor's Signature		Date	3/30/04
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NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:	<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor
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Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Name or Surname
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Inventor's Signature	Date
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Residence: City	State	Country	Citizenship
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Mailing Address:			
City	State	ZIP	Country

Additional inventors or a legal representative are being named on the _____ supplemental sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A or 02LR attached hereto.